

From: ldillon@imt.net@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:16am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Greetings,

I'm just writing to let you know that the proposed settlement is a total cave-in on the part of the DOJ. It's not going to do much of anything to stop Microsoft from continuing their illegal monopolistic practices.

What we really need is totally open, free and unencumbered standards for information interchange. It's Microsoft's de-facto, proprietary "standards," like the Word format for documents, HTML that only works with Microsoft's Internet Explorer, and the SMB protocol that keep other players from competing.

Microsoft must be made to release either the API's or enough source code so that competing products can interoperate and exchange data with Microsoft products. Then these competing products can compete on their own merit. The exceptions for "security" in the proposed settlement is totally contrary to interoperability.

We do not need a break-up of Microsoft, we just need them to be forced to release enough information so that others can make products that can work and compete.

Thank you.

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